



City of Whittier

13230 Penn Street, Whittier, California 90602-1716
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Bob Henderson
Mayor

Cathy Warner
Mayor Pro Tem

Fernando Dutra
Council Member

Joe Vinatieri
Council Member

Owen Newcomer
Council Member

Jeffrey W. Collier
City Manager

September 11, 2013

Via Certified Mail Return, Receipt Requested and Via Email

Mr. Russ Guiney, Director
Los Angeles County Regional Park and Open Space District
510 South Vermont Avenue
Los Angeles, California 90020-1975

**RE: Response to August 29, 2013 Letter Entitled: District
Consideration of Proposed Change of Use and Disposition
Related to the Whittier Main Oil Field Project on Land
Purchased with Proposition A Funds**

Dear Mr. Guiney:

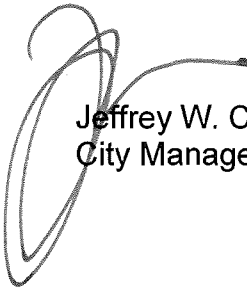
In response to the above-referenced letter, you are advised as follows:

1. For a period of years, the City of Whittier repeatedly sought an agreement with your District regarding the amount of the current value of the approximately 20 acres of surface area to be used in the Matrix/Clayton Williams project ("the oil project" hereinafter);
2. The City has stated, and continues to believe and maintain, that the District consented to the subject lease and the oil project prior to and subsequent to the City's selection of its Lessee, as reflected in your staff communications to the City. Furthermore, it is clear that you and your staff, and not the Board of Supervisors, have authority to so consent and to otherwise administer the provisions of the Project Agreement (see Project Agreement, General Provisions, Section A 1.);
3. In recent months, your legal counsel in the pending litigation dealing with the implementation of the oil project has, on several occasions, and publicly, made it clear that it now would be futile for the City to seek the District's agreement on anything concerning the oil project, declaring that the District's sole intent is to aggressively pursue the litigation and stating

that the District would not meaningfully participate in a Court supervised settlement conference;

4. The City of Whittier is not an applicant for a land use entitlement; accordingly, your reference to the City seeking a CEQA based approval from your District makes no sense;
5. In reference to the oil project, the City now is and will be guided by applicable Court orders, including a final judgment which has not yet been entered, and will consider pursuing its appellate rights as appropriate; and
6. Based on the circumstances referenced above in this letter, at this time and unless and until you otherwise are informed in the future, the City of Whittier withdraws any outstanding request which was made or could have been inferred to have been made in the past to have your District consent to, approve, or make any other purported decision concerning the oil project.

Sincerely,



Jeffrey W. Collier
City Manager